

SOPHIE

DRAWER 1A HANKS FAMILIES - NOT LOCATED

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# Hanks Family

Sophie Hanks

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Jesse Friend Family

ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 29, 1932.

"Lincoln Lore,"  
Fort Wayne,  
Indiana.

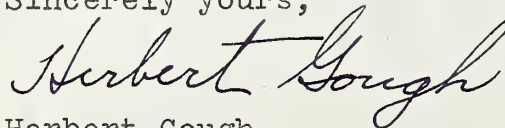
Dear Sirs:

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Mr. F. B. Butler, Assistant Director of the Public Buildings and Public Parks of Washington, concerning mementoes of the Lincoln family which Mr. Morgan has recently acquired.

Mr. Morgan has secured a tintype of Sophia Hanks LeGrand, a first cousin of Abraham Lincoln. Of interest too, though perhaps of lesser importance, are two pictures of James LeGrand, the son of this woman, and therefore second cousin of Abraham Lincoln. A description of the relationship of these people to Abraham Lincoln may be found in Mr. Morgan's article, "New Light on Lincoln's Boyhood," in the February, 1920 number of the Atlantic Monthly.

If you should be interested in any of these pictures, Mr. Morgan would be glad to turn them over to you for whatever price you see fit. The financial returns will go to a surviving member of the family who is in needy circumstances.

Sincerely yours,



Herbert Gough,  
Secretary to the President.

HG:BB

Jesse  
Friend

# LINCOLN'S COUSIN RECALLS STORIES OF EMANCIPATOR

Treated for Fractures in  
Oak Forest Infirmary.

BY MARTHA MURPHY.

Abe Lincoln's third cousin—and his spittin' image—never even bothers to tell folks who he really is. The cousin, Charles G. Le Grand, has been in the Oak Forest infirmary for two months, but it took a letter from Ohio yesterday to let even Frank Venecek, superintendent, and Dr. Eugene Chesrow, head physician, know his identity.

"There never seemed much point in telling anybody about it," Le Grand said yesterday. "Nobody ever believed it anyway. My mother used to spread it around, but when she always talked more than my father."

Le Grand's grandmother, Sophie Hanks Le Grand, lived with Lincoln and the Hanks family until she was 19 and the stories she told her grandchildren about Abe are just the kind that helped him get elected president. Arthur E. Morgan, former president of Antioch college, Yellow Springs, O., and former chairman of the Tennessee valley authority, who wrote the letter to the infirmary urging that every effort be made to enable Le Grand to return home, visited the Le Grands once and heard them all.

## Make Husk Cap for Lincoln.

"One of grandmother's funniest stories about Lincoln was the one about the corn husking party," Le Grand yesterday. "She made Abe a little corn husk cap to wear and he got to having so much fun at the party that it fell off into the fire. He was pretty mad, but grandmother made him another one. She was adept.

"Abe and grandmother looked just alike. We laid their pictures side by side once and grandmother was his spittin' image—even to the mole by his nose and the junny way his lower lip stuck out."

Le Grand himself looks just like Lincoln—minus the mole. He has the same jutting chin, long nose and heavy eyebrows and long, rangy build.

"The boys back in Jasper, Ark.—the ones that knew about us—used to tease me because they said I ever walked like him," Le Grand said. "That's where I grew up and where Mr. Morgan came to see us. Father settled there because he liked the hills, the hunting, and the fine spring water. Grandmother lived with us when we had our house in Limestone valley."

## Lincoln Slapped Off Fence.

"She told us that story about Abe and the Hanks boys all lying in front of the fireplace nights and studying. Grandmother was quite a figurer herself—a mighty deep woman—but they all helped each other. Why she could even work the old Studebaker wagon problem that went around.

"Another of her stories was about the time she and Abe were out hoeing corn and a sluggard walked by all dressed up in a new pair of pants. They were working hard and the sluggard never did anything. Abe made some remark about him and got slapped right off the rail fence they were resting on."

Le Grand reads every book about Lincoln he can lay hands on, but has never visited any of the Lincoln shrines. He's 61 years old now and recovering from hip fractures of a and of a shoulder and figures he probably won't get a chance to make the trips.

All he wants is a chance to go back to his kin folks in Doe Run, Mo.





# MARK TWAIN HOTEL

Hannibal  
MISSOURI

Aug 18 1950

Dear Dr Warren:

I have located another branch of the family of Polly Hanks of Ky, here in Macon Co. Mo. This tradition is identical with the one reported by Dr Arthur E Morgan from Ark. The one here was a Samuel H Hanks, born 1820, in Mercer or Boyle Co Ky, brother of Sophia born 1809.

Also these Joshua descendants in the Ill. River Valley embrace an untenable tradition that the photostatic bible record refutes with a Nancy born too late. I do not disabuse their minds!

truly  
Adin Baber



MARK TWAIN STATUE  
IN RIVERVIEW PARK  
MARK TWAIN AND  
HIS BOYHOOD HOME  
TOM SAWYER AND  
HUCK FINN STATUE  
ENTRANCE TO  
MARK TWAIN CAVE  
MARK TWAIN MUSEUM



